THE

Suffering Caſe

OF

JOHN LOVE,

Of ASH, near *Sandwich* in KENT;

Who for his Conſciencious Refuſal to Pay Twenty Shillings for

One Years Tythe,

Was Proſecuted to a Sequeſtration by *Francis Wood*, who Alledged he was Excited thereto by *Daniel Small*, Steward to the Widow *Cartwright*.

THE ſaid *Francis Wood* having obtained a Sequeſtration for the 20 *s.* aforeſaid, ſent Three Bayliffs belonging to one of the Courts of the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, who on the 15th and 16th of the 11th Month, called *January*, 1695. Levied and Carried

away

away all the Goods in the Houſe of the ſaid *John Love*, worth taking away, and all his Corn, except about one Gallon of Barley, according to the Account following.

	l.	s.	d.	q.
4 Feather beds, and Bedſteads, with all their Furniture, (except Sheets) and alſo one Flock-bed,	36	00	00	0

Goods in the Parlour.

6 Turned Green Chairs 12 *s.*	00	12	00	0
A Table 6 *s.* and a pair of Andirons 7 *s.* 6 *d.*	00	13	06	0

Goods in the Hall.

1 Cubboard 10 *s.* 1 Table Frame 6 *s.* a little Stool and Table 2 *s.* Earthern Ware 3 *s.* Knives 1 *s.* 2 *d.* half a Pound of Starch, and Blue 2 Ounces 6 *d.* a pair of Horſe-Fleams 2 *s.* 6 *d.*	01	05	02	0
1 Jack and Spit 8 *s.* 2 Tin Pans 1 *s.* a Toaſting-Iron and Gridiron 3 *s.* one Egg-ſlice 3 *d.* two Box-Irons 3 *s.* ſix High Chairs 4 *s.* 6 *d.*	01	09	09	0
1 Peſtle and Mortar 4 *s.*	00	04	00	0
	39	14	05	0

Goods

Goods in the Kitchen.

	l.	s.	d.	q.
1 Copper 33 *s.* one Braſs Skillet 2 *s.* 1 Braſs Kettle 10 *s.* 7 Pewter Diſhes, 2 Saucers, and 1 Three-pint Pot, with Porrengers and Spoons 1 *l.* 11 *s.*	03	16	00	0

Goods in the Chamber.

1 Warming-pan 4 *s.* one Cheſt 3 *s.* 1 Joint-ſtool 2 *s.* 6 *d.* a Pillion and Cloath 15 *s.* 1 pair of Coal-Irons, and other Irons 12 *s.* 6 *d.* 1 Wicker-chair 7 *s.* 13 Buſhels and a half of Wheat at 50 *s. per* Quarter 4 *l.* 4 *s.* 4 *d.* 2 *q.*	06	08	04	2
4 Buſhels and a half of Choice great Beans 1 *l.* about 5 Buſhels of ſmall Beans, 18 *s.* 6 *d.* about 3 Pecks of Yellow Peaſe, and Bag 5 *s.*	02	03	06	0
7 Sacks which the Corn was in 13 *s.*	00	13	00	0

Note, That was all the Corn he had of all ſorts, except about a Gallon of Barley for Hens, which was Bad, and ſcarce worth carrying away:

13	00	10	2

	l.	s.	d.	q.
1 Buſhel 6 *s.* 6 *d.* 1 Scoopet 1 *s.* 1 Rip 2 *s.* 1 Vilier Saddle and Collar 6 *s.*	00	15	06	0
1 Stone Colt 3 *l.* 1 Hog 13 *s.*	03	13	00	0
Waſte and Havock by *Bayliffs*, and their Horſes, to the Value of	00	10	00	0
	04	18	06	0
Levied in Page 2.	39	14	05	0
Levied in Page 3.	13	00	10	2/1
Levied in all	57	13	09	2/1

Beſides ſome other Things that are not here Inſerted.

Note, That his Eſtate is worth but 10 *l. per* Year, and One Years Tythe thereof is but 20 *s.*

An Account of the Behaviour of thoſe Perſons that the Impropriator ſent to my Houſe, to carry on the Sequeſtration of my Goods in his Name, who did take and carry away, after the Poſſeſſion taken by the Bailiffs, as by the Schedule is made appear.

WHen the ſaid *Daniel Small* entered my Houſe, with *John Plumer*, who was the Attorney concerned in it, and *John Petly*, formerly Impropriator in the ſame Parſonage, and *George Waker*, a Wicked, Envious Man againſt Friends, as by his Behaviour did appear, by his ſearching out Things beyond any of the reſt, whom the ſaid *Small* brought as Appraiſers of my Goods.

Then

Then I Addreſſed my ſelf to them in words to this effect; firſt, Whether they thought it Chriſtianity they were a going to act by me? And then warned them to take heed what they did, for ſome of them had Grey Hairs, and Children as well as my ſelf, and that the Hand of the Lord would find them out.

Then the ſaid *Small* was very Turbulent in his Behaviour, and thoſe he brought with him as Servants; ſo they tore and broke down my Goods, and threw them out of the Window, as if it had been where an Houſe is on Fire, and took my Victuals and threw it down, ſome in a Chair, and ſome on the Ground, and ſtepped over it, which came ſo over them, that two of the Bailiffs wept to behold ſuch Oppreſſion; and one of the Bailiffs ſeeing a Dog going to it, drove him away; and one of them cried out of *Small*'s Cruelty, ſo that he was troubled to get his Work accompliſhed.

For *John Horne*, as by his Son I was informed, being deſired to be Appraiſer, refuſed, and would not be concerned in it for Five Pound; alſo one *Gamm*, a Joyner, alias *Gamaliel Tomlen*, refuſed the ſame, and ſaid he would not meddle if they would give him Forty Shillings; and one *Richard Friend*, a Carpenter, was deſired to take down my Beds, but he refuſed, and told the Meſſenger, If I did deſire any thing to be took down or ſet up he would wait on me, but not on them: And one *John Grigg*, who came up accidentally about the middle of the Afternoon, and beheld it, was deſired to help away with my Goods, and he ſhould be paid for half a Days Work, but he refuſed, and went his way concerned to behold their Ungodly Deeds.

And when *Small* was Charged with ſuch Cruelties, he ſhiftingly ſaid, It was his Ladies act, and not his; but he was told, That his Lady, as he called her, would be made acquainted with it, to know if ſhe would own ſuch an Un-

Unchriſtian act; ſo after all the havock and ſtir was over, I took up my Victuals, and ſet it forth on an old Stool which was made to ſet Bees on, but was then my beſt Table, and deſired them to eat and drink of ſuch as they had left me, after their hard Toyl and Labour to Ruin me.

And the pure Principle of God, (which teacheth to Love Enemies) I felt to flow forth as a Celeſtial Stream, and to raiſe Cries in my Heart to the Lord, to forgive them who in Ignorance were concerned as alſo my Wife, and Four of my Children, who were then preſent with me, and beheld thoſe things to the Joy and Rejoicing of their Hearts, to behold the Lord to bear up our Spirits in Time of Trials; and this is given forth under our Hands as a Warning to all that may be concerned in Oppreſſion, that they may take Care how they are concerned in perſecuting of thoſe, who for Conſcience to God cannot give them Tythes, and is left to the Witneſs for God in their Conſciences to judge, whether they think, that when both they and we ſhall come to ſtand naked and bare before the Bar of Divine Juſtice, to Receive a Reward of the Deeds done in this Life, whether or no they think ſuch Things will give them peace and acceptance at the Throne of Grace, or will ſtand againſt them to their perpetual Shame and Confuſion for Ever?

So with Living praiſes to the Lord, who hath counted me worthy to ſuffer for him, ſo that I could with Joy in the Lord behold the ſpoiling of my Goods, knowing that in Heaven I have a more durable Subſtance which fadeth not away.

This we give, whoſe Names are here Subſcribed, as a Teſtimonial of the Truth of what our Names are mentioned in aforeſaid.

John Love.
Martha Love.
John Love, Junior.
Joſeph Love.
Richard Love.
Martha Love, the Younger.
Margaret Adams.
Dorcas Full.
Robert Full.
Ann Reed.
his
John H *Horne*
Mark.
Gamaliel Tomkin.
Richard Frond.
John Grigges.

All which ſaid Goods were carried away, and the ſaid *John Love* and his Family, left deſtitute of Beds, and other Neceſſaries, and reduced to great Wants and Neceſſities, and this for his Conſciencious Teſtimony againſt Tythes being paid to any Prieſthood, ſince Chriſt was offer'd up, who put an end to the Levitical Prieſthood, to whom Tythes were given; and ſince Tythes were ſo put down, they have been Revived under the Romiſh Church, and many called Proteſtants loving the Lucre thereof, make Havock and Spoil of the Goods of their Neighbours for the ſame, notwithſtanding the Sufferers deſire the Lord would open the Eyes of their Perſecutors, and ſhew them the Evil of their Doings.

'Tis ſaid, *Francis Wood* is very ſorry his Name was ever concerned in this Matter; ſaying, That if he thought they would have been ſo ſevere, he would rather have ſuffered Great Loſs, than to have had his Name uſed therein. Here follows part of a Letter from *John Love*'s Daughter, to a Friend in *London*, on that Occaſion.

Aſh,

Ash, the 19th of the 11th Month, 169⅞.

Dear Friend,

THE Occasion of my Writing to thee, is to acquaint thee, that the Devourer hath been let loose upon my Father for about Twenty Shillings, which was the most of their Demand for One Years Tythe; they came with Three Bailiffs, and took and carried away to the Value of 57 l. *and upwards, in Goods, so that my Father hath not a Bed to lie on, nor a Blanket to cover himself, nor scarce a Chair to sit in, nor scarce any necessary thing, nor no Corn left by them, except about a Gallon of Barley, but yet this is our Joy and Rejoicing, being all our Family together, except my Sister* Mary, *and my Brothers Wife, we took up our Lodging, and lay all Six of us in good clean Straw beds, as was left us in the Barn; and blessed be the Lord, we felt his Living Presence to make our Straw-beds as easie to us as if it had been a Bed of Down; and in this we all could Rejoice, and did Rejoice, finding better Goods left than was taken away, such Treasure as Moth nor Rust cannot Corrupt, nor Thief Steal. We indeed had very large Incouragement in the very midst of their Hurry: when they were throwing the Goods out of the Windows, the Lord smote two of the Bailiffs with such Horror, that they were much broken, and wept to behold such Oppression, and to see the Lord bear us up with such Patience, as to Rejoice under it, and said, That they would not meddle any more in such Cases.*

Martha Love.

Psal. 72. 4. *He,* (that is Christ, who hath an unchangeable Priesthood, and continueth, &c.) *shall Judge the Poor of the People; he shall save the Children of the Needy, and shall break in pieces the Oppressor.*

Psal. 37. 38, 39, 40. *The Transgressors shall be destroyed together, the end of the Wicked shall be cut off; but the Salvation of the Righteous is of the Lord, he is their strength in the time of Trouble, and the Lord shall help them, and deliver them; he shall deliver them from the Wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.*

FINIS.

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Life & Death of Thomas Markham